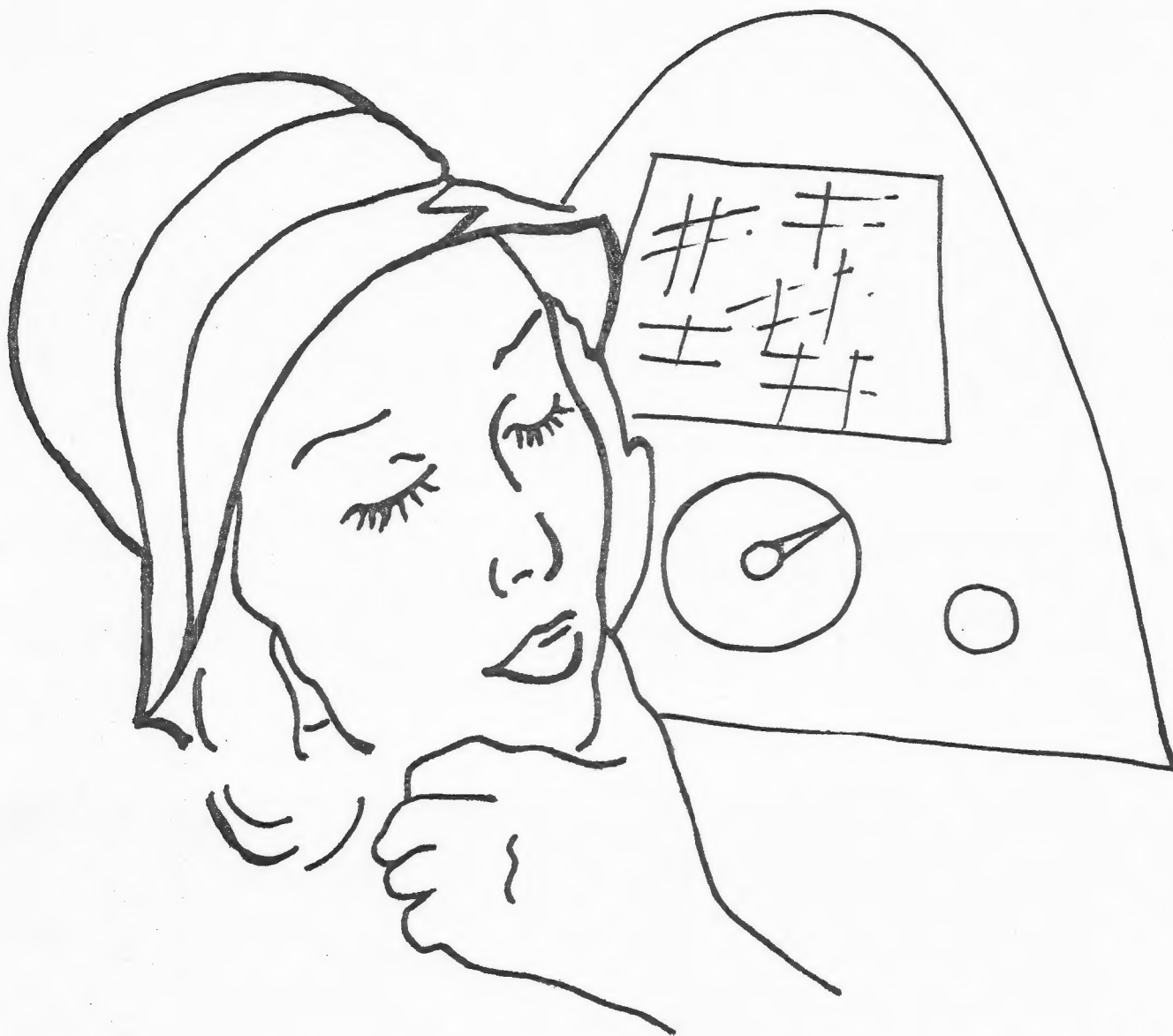


# RADIO IN DEPTH

AUGUST, 1975

ISSUE 14



RADIO IN DEPTH

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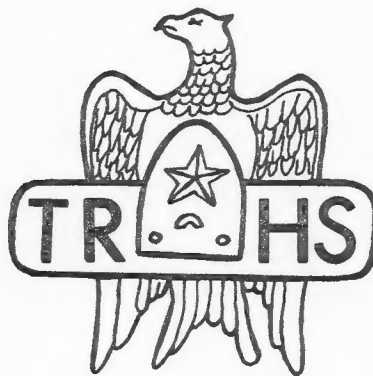
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College Station, Texas 77844

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RADIO IN DEPTH is the offical publication of the Texas Radio Historical Society !



## RADIO FACTS

THE SOAP OPERA JANE ARDEN STARRING RUTH YORKE AND FRANK PROVO STARTED ON NETWORK RADIO ON SEPTEMBER 26, 1938 AFTER BEING TESTED FOR FOURTEEN WEEKS ON LOCAL NEW YORK RADIO.

THE HOUR OF CHARM STARTED WITH PHIL SPITALNY AND HIS ALL GIRL ORCHESTRA WAS FIRST HEARD MONDAY, OCTOBER 3, 1938 ON NBC.

IN THE EARLY PART OF 1938 THE ADVERTISING AGENCY FOR CHASE AND SANBORN ASKED CBS NOT TO ALLOW THE NAME CHARLIE MCCARTHY BE USED ON CBS. EDDIE CANTOR WAS THE FIRST TO TEST THE NEW POLICY OF CBS. THE SCRIPT FOR EDDIE'S NOVEMBER 14, 1938 SHOW CONTAINED THE FOLLOWING EXCHANGE WITH LESLIE HOWARD:

HOWARD: JUST THINK, AFTER EIGHT YEARS YOU'RE STILL ON THE CHASE AND SANBORN PROGRAM.

CANTOR: NO, LESLIE. THIS IS SPONCERED BY CAMEL CIGARETTES... I'M NOT ON THE CHASE AND SANBORN ANY MORE.

HOWARD: THEN WHO IS THAT CHAP WHO SITS IN EDGAR BERGEN'S LAP ?

CANTOR: THAT'S CHARLIE MCCARTHY... I'M EDDIE CANTOR.

HOWARD: REMARKABLE RESEMBLANCE ! ISN'T DOROTHY LAMOUR ON THAT SAME PROGRAM ?

CANTOR: YES, YES, DORTHY LAMOUR IS ON THAT PROGRAM.

HOWARD: AND BERGEN HAS CHARLIE MCCARTHY SIT ON HIS LAP ?

CANTOR: THAT'S RIGHT.

HOWARD: STUPID FELLOW, THAT BERGEN !

OF COURSE, THAT PAGE OF THE SCRIPT WAS TORN OUT BEFORE THE SHOW AND CANTOR LEARNED NOT TO SAY "CHARLIE MCCARTHY", AT LEAST NOT ON CBS.

CHARLIE (ANDY) CORRELL HAD A TRANSPORT PILOT'S LICENSE. TO GET ENOUGH HOURS TO QUALIFY HE WOULD FLY FROM PALM SPRINGS TO LOS ANGELES AND BACK EVERY DAY.

CARLTON E. MORSE WAS THE FIRST PERSON IN HISTORY TO MAKE A ROUND-TRIP ON A COMMERCIAL TRANS-PACIFIC FLIGHT. HE FLEW FROM CALIFORNIA ABOARD THE CHINA CLIPPER ON APRIL 28, 1937.

THE FIRST TIME THE FICTIONAL CHARACTER BULLDOG DRUMMOND WAS HEARD ON RADIO WAS FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 16, 1938. THE STORY STARRING HERBERT MARSHALL AS BULLDOG DRUMMOND WAS PART OF THE HOLLYWOOD HOTEL SERIES (9:00 PM EDT, COLUMBIA).

THE LIGHTS OUT SHOW FOR JANUARY 26, 1938 (MISSING FROM THE LIGHTS OUT LOG, RADIO IN DEPTH, ISSUE 10, PAGE 5) WAS "OXYCHLORIDE X" WORLD CATASTROPHE TAKES PLACE WHEN A CHEMIST CONCOCTS A HORRIBLY DESTRUCTIVE SUBSTANCE WHICH EATS AWAY AT STEEL AND GLASS ALIKE.

SAM (SCHLEPPERMAN) HEARN WAS ONCE A CONCERT VIOLINIST. SAM PLAYED WITH SYMPHONY ORCHESTRAS FOR YEARS BEFORE GOING ON THE JACK BENNY SHOW. EVEN WHILE HE WAS WITH JACK, SAM KEPT IN PRATICE FOR THE DAY HE WOULD RETURN TO BEING A VIOLINIST.

IN 1932, URBAN JOHNSON AND HELEN EARLE DID THE SOUND EFFECTS FOR CBS'S FU MANCHU MYSTERIES.

# THE JACK BENNY LOG PART VIII

SO MANY READERS WANTED US TO CONTINUE THE JACK BENNY LOG THAT WE FEEL WE SHOULD, EVEN THOUGH MOST OF THE MANUSCRIPT WAS LOST. THIS MONTH WE LOOK AT THE YEAR 1946. OTHER PARTS OF THE JACK BENNY LOG ALREADY PUBLISHED ARE:

- PART I: THE INTRODUCTION AND 1938, ISSUE 4, PAGE 7
- PART II: 1937 AND 1939, ISSUE 6, PAGE 3
- PART III: 1936 AND 1940, ISSUE 7, PAGE 6
- PART IV: 1935 AND 1941, ISSUE 8, PAGE 7
- PART V: THE JACK BENNY MOVIES, ISSUE 8, PAGE 9
- PART VI: 1942 AND 1943, ISSUE 9, PAGE 13
- PART VII: 1944 AND 1945, ISSUE 10, PAGE 10

1946

SPONSOR: LUCKY STRIKES

NETWORK: NBC

DAY: SUNDAY

TIME: 7:00 PM EST

THE REGULARS: JACK BENNY, MARY LIVINGSTON, DON WILSON, EDDIE "ROCHESTER" ANDERSON, DENNIS DAY RETURNS 17 MARCH.

- JAN. 6: AFTER GETTING JACK SLUGGED BY A GANGSTER AND THE "WHY I CAN'T STAND JACK BENNY" CONTEST, PRESS AGENT, STEVE BRADLEY, CAME UP WITH A NEW STUNT.
- JAN. 13: JACK AND GANG DO A SATIRE ON "STATE FAIR."
- JAN. 20: ?
- JAN. 27: THE WINNERS OF THE "I CAN'T STAND JACK BENNY" CONTEST WERE ANNOUNCED.
- FEB. 3: THE COLMANS VISIT JACK AND HE PLAYS A DUET WITH ISAAC STERN.
- FEB. 10: EDDIE CANTOR IS JACK'S GUEST. THE SHOW COMES FROM PALM SPRINGS.
- FEB. 17: ISAAC STERN IS JACK'S GUEST.
- FEB. 24: JACK DOES "SWEETNESS AND LIGHT."
- MAR. 3: ARTIE AUERBACK, THE FAMOUS "PECKLE IN THE NEEDLE" MAN, IS JACK'S GUEST.
- MAR. 10: ?
- MAR. 17: DENNIS DAY RETURNS TO THE JACK BENNY SHOW AFTER TWO YEARS IN THE NAVY.
- MAR. 24: JACK'S GUEST IS PETER LORRE.
- MAR. 31: JACK AND GANG PERFORM AT MARCH FIELD ARMY AIR BASE AT RIVERSIDE, CALIFORNIA.
- APR. 7: VAN JOHNSON IS JACK'S GUEST.
- APR. 14: FOR THE FORTH TIME JACK'S GUESTS ARE THE COLMANS.
- APR. 21: THE SHOW COMES FROM THE AIRCRAFT CARRIER SARATOGA WHILE ANCHORED IN SAN FRANCISCO BAY. IT WAS THE EVE OF THE AIRCRAFT CARRIER'S SAILING TO BIKINI BAY FOR THE ATOMIC BOMB TESTS.
- APR. 28: DANNY KAYE IS JACK'S GUEST.
- MAY 5: JACK AND GANG LEAVE FOR CHICAGO.
- MAY 12: JACK'S SHOW COMES FROM CHICAGO AND HAS THE QUIZ KIDS AS GUESTS.
- MAY 19: FRED ALLEN IS JACK'S GUEST.
- MAY 26: THIS LAST SHOW OF JACK'S 14th SEASON COMES FROM NEW YORK.
- SEPT 29: FIRST SHOW OF THE NEW SEASON.
- OCT. 6: ?
- OCT. 13: JACK'S GUEST ARE CHARLIE MCCARTHY AND EDGAR BERGEN.
- OCT. 20: JACK DOES A SATIRE ON RADIO MYSTERY DRAMAS.
- OCT. 27: ?
- NOV. 3: JACK TAKES ANOTHER VIOLIN LESSON FROM MEL BLANC.
- NOV. 10: ?
- NOV. 17: THE COLMANS AND LEO DUROCHER ARE JACK'S GUEST.
- NOV. 24: E. G. ROBINSON IS GUEST.
- DEC. 1: PHIL BAKER IS JACK'S GUEST.

DEC. 8: JACK AND GANG GO  
CHRISMAS SHOPPING IN  
A LARGE DEPARTMENT  
STORE.

DEC. 15: ?

DEC. 22: JACK'S GUESTS ARE  
ANDY DEVINE, KENNY  
BAKER, LARRY STEVENS,  
AND SAM (SCHELPPERMAN)  
HEARN.

DEC. 29: ?

### RADIO PRODUCED QUESTIONS :

BECAUSE THE LISTENER COULD NOT  
SEE THE ACTION THEY COULD NOT  
BUT WONDER ABOUT SOME OF THE  
THINGS AND PEOPLE THEY HEARD.  
QUESTIONS PASSED THROUGH THEIR  
MINDS—QUESTIONS LIKE:

WHO PLAYED COOKIE ON BLONDIE  
AND WAS SHE AN ADULT LIKE TEENA  
ON THE FIBBER MCGEE AN MOLLY  
SHOW ?

COOKIE WAS PLAYED BY NORMA  
JEAN, A CHILD RADIO STAR.  
SHE HAD BEGUN HER CAREER  
AT THE AGE OF FIVE AS AN  
ARCH OBOLER FIND. HER  
FIRST PART WAS AS A FILIPINO  
GIRL IN A GRIPPING DRAMA.  
SHE WAS SO GOOD THAT SEE  
WENT ON TO DO MANY TOP  
NETWORK SHOWS BEFORE LAND-  
ING ON THE BLONDIE SHOW  
BEFORE SHE WAS TEN. ONE  
OF THOSE EARLY PARTS SHE  
PLAYED WAS THE LITTLE GIRL  
NEXT DOOR ON THE JACK CARSON  
SHOW.

IF YOU HAVE A QUESTION MAYBE WE  
HAVE THE ANSWER, WHY NOT GIVE  
US A TRY ?

TEXAS RADIO HISTORICAL  
SOCIETY; P.O. Box 5184  
COLLEGE STATION, TEXAS  
77844

### RADIO FUN FOR FILLER

HERE ARE SOME JOKES TAKEN FROM  
RADIO SHOWS TO FILL OUT A PAGE  
AND MAYBE GET A LAUGH—JUST ONE  
MORE TIME.

FROM THE BURNS AND ALLEN SHOW:

1. GRACIE TO A SALESMAN: "THE  
OVEN HAS BEEN ON ALL DAY."  
SALESMAN: "WHAT ARE YOU COOK-  
ING ?"  
GRACIE: "NOTHING. I LEAVE  
IT ON SO THE GAS COMPANY WON'T  
KNOW WE EAT OUT A LOT."
2. GRACIE: "I'M HUNGRY FROM ALL  
THIS SHOPPING. WHERE CAN I  
GET A HAM SANDWICH ?"  
SALESGIRL: "WHY DON'T YOU TRY  
OUR MEZZANINE ?"  
GRACIE: "OH, NO ! IT'S TOO  
EARLY IN THE DAY FOR ITALIAN  
FOOD."
3. GRACIE: "WHEN GEORGE CAME  
CALLING WE'D SIT ON THE SOFA.  
ONE TIME MY MOTHER CAME IN  
AND TURNED OUT THE LIGHTS."  
BLANCHE: "YOUR MOTHER TURNED  
OUT THE LIGHTS ?"  
GRACIE: "SHE COULDN'T STAND TO  
LOOK AT GEORGE."

FROM THE HALLS OF IVY:

TODHUNTER HALL: "WHEN A MAN TELLS  
YOU HE'S A SELF-MADE MAN, IT'S  
DECENT OF HIM TO TAKE THE  
BLAME FOR IT."

FROM THE FANNY BRICE-BABY SNOOKS SHOW:

DADDY: "WOMEN'S SHOES ! THE  
LESS THEY GIVE YOU THE MORE  
IT COST. AND EVERY YEAR IT  
GETS WORSE. FIRST NO TOES,  
THEN NO BACKS, THEN NO SIDES—  
IF IT KEEPS UP, YOU KNOW  
WHAT THEY'LL PROBABLY BE SELL-  
ING YOU NEXT YEAR ? TWO  
BUNION PADS WITH ANKLE STRAPS !"

FROM THE BERGEN-McCARTHY SHOW:

BERGEN: "SO THAT'S IT ! WITH-  
HOLDING FUNDS THAT AREN'T  
YOURS ! FROM THIS YOU WILL  
GO TO STEALING, EMBEZZLING,  
COUNTERFEITING, SWINDLING !"  
McCARTHY: "WELL, THAT'S A LOAD  
OFF MY MIND. MY FUTURE IS  
ALL PLANNED !"

FROM THE \$64 QUESTION:

JACK PAAR: "I ONCE ASKED A CON-  
TESTANT HIS OCCUPATION. HE  
SAID HE WAS A LION TAMER. I  
ASKED HIM IF HE HAD EVER  
PUT HIS HEAD IN A LION'S  
MOUTH, AND HE REPLIED, 'ONLY  
TO LOOK FOR DAD !'"

THE BLUE PHANTOM MURDERS  
AN I LOVE A MYSTERY SCRIPT  
BY CARLTON E. MORSE  
EPISODE #2

SETTLE BACK AND ENJOY ANOTHER SCRIPT BY THE MASTER OF RADIO PLOT AND CHARACTERIZATION. THEN SIT DOWN WITH PENCIL AND PAPER AND LET US KNOW IF YOU WANT MORE.

FOR MORE INFORMATION ON THE CAREER OF CARLTON E. MORSE SEE:

<u>RADIO</u> IN DEPTH	Issue 1	PAGE 7	"ONE MAN'S <u>RADIO</u> "
<u>RADIO</u> IN DEPTH	Issue 2	PAGE 12	"THE I LOVE A MYSTERY LOG"

MUTUAL

"I LOVE A MYSTERY"

STORY NO. X - EPISODE NO. 2

"THE BLUE PHANTOM MURDERS"

JUNE 5, 1950

MONDAY

-----  
SOUND: (TRAIN AND WHISTLE)

ANNCR: The Mutual Broadcasting System presents "I LOVE A  
MYSTERY."

SOUND: (TRAIN AND WHISTLE)

(MUSIC:.....ORGAN - "Valse Triste")

SOUND: (SIREN..SCREECH OF BRAKES)

ANNCR: A new Carlton Morse Adventure Thriller!....  
"The Blue Phantom Murders".



I LOVE A MYSTERY  
JUNE 5, 1950

-2- STORY NO. X -EPISODE NO. 2

SOUND: (CLOCK STRIKES NINE)

ANN: Nine o'clock at night aboard the power yacht Blue Phantom somewhere in the South Atlantic Ocean. Arnold Foster, millionaire and owner and skipper of the Blue Phantom has fitted the craft out for a scientific expedition. The three comrades Jack Packard, Doc Long and Reggie York, were hired to make the trip but to this moment, after eleven days at sea, they don't know WHY. Also aboard are Dr. Parks, scientist; Dr. Davids, M.D. and Arnold Foster's young wife, Ruth, official historian. The rest of the crew is made up of Swensen, the engineer, two able seamen, Charlie and Pete, and Roger, the cabin steward. That is, Roger WAS a part of the crew until an hour ago when he was found dead. Murdered! Jack had seen trouble brewing but had not anticipated it striking so soon or in this quarter. He knew there was an under-current of hate between Dr. Parks, Dr. Davids, and Arnold Foster. He knew the smoldering trouble was fast being brought to a head by the scientist's and the Medic's interest in Foster's wife, Ruth, years younger than her husband and too good-looking for safety. It was Arnold Foster himself who discovered the body and he brought the news to the boys' cabin, where Dr. Parks was talking with them, as though it was a delightful tidbit of gossip. He said it was murder by poison and that Dr. Parks would be especially interested. That was an hour ago.

(MORE)



I LOVE A MYSTERY  
JUNE 5, 1950

-3- STORY NO. X - EPISODE NO. 2

ANN: At the moment Jack and Doc are in the tiny medical ward  
(CONT'D) with Dr. Davids, and the body of the dead man.

JACK: (RESERVE) Well Doctor, what's the verdict?

DAVIDS: (OCCUPIED) Rather not say until I'm finished... The facilities for performing an autopsy onboard the Blue Phantom are meagre to say the least...

JACK: You've done a pretty thorough job, I'd say...

DAVIDS: (SURPRISE) What do you know about an autopsy?

JACK: Not much....

DOC: Hey, what you want to go and say THAT for, Jack.....All the doctorin' you've done the past four, five years---

DAVIDS: You're a DOCTOR, Mr. Packard?

JACK: No....

DAVIDS: But Mr. Long here just said---

JACK: Doc talks too much.

DOC: (SHRUGS) Well you're all the doctor I need...

DAVIDS: Queer....I never knew a medical man who was ashamed of profession...

JACK: Will you get it through your head I'm NOT a doctor.... A little rough, emergency medicine...Bandage a broken head, set a broken arm, disinfect an open wound.

DAVIDS: (GRUNTS) Where'd you study?

JACK: I don't remember saying I studied anywhere....

DAVIDS: (SHORT) Sorry!...This next bit's delicate...Don't talk to me....I'll be through then...

SOUND: (PAUSE)

DOC: MAN, they sure know EVERYTHING about you when you've been autopsied, don't they?

JACK: (DRYLY) That's the idea....Heard anything from Reggie?

DOC: Stuck his head in the door couple of minutes ago and said Arnold Foster was up in the wheel-house...

JACK: What's he doing up there?

DOC: Nothin'....Just UP there....Reggie went back to keep an eye on him.

JACK: Did he say where Dr. Parks is?

DOC: Yeah, in his cabin...And that little old she-wife of Foster's.....She's in HER cabin....

JACK: Uh-huh....I wonder if she knows about the death of the cabin steward here?

DOC: I don't know, son....Say looky, Jack, don't it strike you we got about the all-time high in no-count skippers aboard this here Blue Phantom.

JACK: Arnold Foster's rated a top-flight master for craft of this type.

DOC: I don't give a tinker's hoot, WHAT he's rated....A feller what comes around you snickerin' and bowin' and washin' his hands ain't no prize fer MY money...

JACK: He certainly hasn't a pleasant personality, but as far as being a good sailor---Well, he's captained the Blue Phantom all over the world....

DOC: And another thing...The way he told us about this here steward bein' dead.....Snickered and sniveled and said he had some interestin' news.....Is that anyway to announce a feller's been killed?

JACK: He said something that struck me as a great deal more significant than THAT.....

DOC: Yeah...What's that?

JACK: He said Dr. Parks will be especially interested...It wasn't exactly what he said, but the way he said it...As though there was some sinister understanding between the two men.....

DOC: Yeah, and did you notice the way Dr. Parks stiffened up.....You could purty-durned near see the hair raise up on his neck.....

JACK: Yes, I noticed.....

DOC: And another thing will you tell me how Arnold Foster knowed it was murder right off....Murder with poison....

JACK: (NODS) Seemed to think he knew what he was talking about.....

DOC: Yeah, he pulls 'murder by poison' right out of the air and here Dr. David's bin a-autopsyin' the body fer an hour and he STILL can't tell us what happened to him.

DAVIDS: Oh yes I can.....

DOC: Hey, you finished?

DAVIDS: I've done everything I can with the facilities available.....

JACK: And you've reached a decision?

DAVIDS: Yes....I'll stake my reputation as a physician on it...

JACK: Well?

DAVIDS: Death came as the direct result of poisoning from snake venom.

JACK: What's that?

DOC: Hey, what you a-talking' about?

DAVIDS: Fantastic as it sounds, that man was killed with snake venom.

DOC: You mean there's 'reptiles a runnin' loose on the Blue Phantom?

DAVIDS: I don't mean anything, except that the condition of the man's blood indicates venom poisoning....

JACK: Snake venom indicates snakes....The quicker we search this ship and get rid of them the better for all of us.

DAVIDS: I haven't told you everything yet.....

JACK: Well isn't this enough?

DAVIDS: I've been over every inch of his body from head to foot....There SHOULD be fang marks...There SHOULD be a localized swollen and inflamed area where the snake struck...There isn't either.....

DOC: Hey looky Doctor, a nombre can't die of snake bite unless he's bin bit by a snake....

DAVIDS: Exactly, and so my report has got to read victim of snake venom but apparently NOT the victim of a snake!

DOC: If that ain't the craziest thing I heard YET...That's like sayin' the victim of bein' butted to death by a bull's horns but not the victim of bein' butted by a BULL.

DAVIDS: Well there you are, gentlemen...That's the danger of not being able to perform a thorough autopsy...I've done all I can and I've drawn such conclusions which I feel safe to draw as far as I've been able to go.

I LOVE A MYSTERY  
JUNE 5, 1950

-7- STORY NO. X - EPISODE NO. 2

DOC: But it just plain don't make SENSE Jack.....

JACK: Well it makes sense enough so we're going to search this ship for snakes.....

DOC: Yeah, but what kind of snakes we a-gonna look for?....

JACK: ALL kinds.....

DOC: But what kind of snake bites you without leavin' his mark?

JACK: I don't know...That's not important.....

DOC: Snakes eleven days out on the Atlantic Ocean...You don't s'pose some kind of a SEA snake clumb aboard do you?

JACK: No, I don't suppose some kind of a sea snake climbed aboard.....

DOC: Yeah...Well it sure ain't RAINED snakes lately.....

JACK: All right, let's go....What about you Dr.?

DAVIDS: I've got to write out my report, then I'll be glad to join you.....

JACK: All right...What about the body...What are you going to do with it?

DAVIDS: It'll have to be buried at sea.....

JACK: But can you DO that without the permission of the next of kin?

DAVIDS: We're not supposed to but Captain Foster said the radio was out of order.....

DOC: Yeah, that's ANOTHER thing that looks mighty funny to me.....

JACK: I think we'd better go have a talk with Foster....

I LOVE A MYSTERY  
JUNE 5, 1950

-8- STORY NO. X - EPISODE NO. 2

DOC: What we want to talk to HIM for?

JACK: Well in the first place we've got to get his permission  
before we can put on a search....

DOC: Yeah, I guess we do at that.....

JACK: And then I'd like to suggest that radio went out of  
commission mighty conveniently.....

DAVIDS: Wait, now, Mr. Packard. You're not intimating the captain --

JACK: I'm not intimating anything. I just don't like the way anything's been going the last few hours...(LEAVING MIKE) Come on, Doc...

DOC: (LEAVING MIKE) You bet YOU...

SOUND: (DOOR OPENS. SOUND OF OCEAN WAVES & WASH. DOOR CLOSES)

DOC: Plenty nice night...Moon, and everything...

JACK: I'm not interested in moons...

DOC: Uh-huh...

JACK: Reggie said Foster was up in the wheel house?

DOC: That's right...You know, Jack, I ain't whatcha might call SQUEAMISH, but walkin' along a dark deck thinkin' maybe any minute --

JACK: Then don't think about it...Here's the ladder up to the wheel house...Go ahead...

DOC: Yeah...

SOUND: (PAUSE, DURING WHICH WAVES ARE HEARD)

JACK: (COMING TO MIKE) What are you waiting for? Go on in.

DOC: But looky, Jack - Captain Foster ain't IN the wheel house...

JACK: What's that?

DOC: No, looky - Old Charley's at the wheel...That's all...

JACK: Let's go in, anyway.

SOUND: (DOOR OPENS)

JACK: Go ahead...

SOUND: (PAUSE. DOOR CLOSES. OCEAN CUT OFF)

CHARLEY: Ahoy, there, mates!



JACK: Hello, Charley.

CHARLEY: What say?

JACK: I said hello.

CHARLEY: Oh...(PAUSE) S'pose you landlubbers know ye ain't s'posed to be up here...

DOC: WHY ain't we?

CHARLEY: Rules...regalations...Nobody ain't s'posed to be in the wheel house 'cept on the invitation of the skipper.

JACK: Where is the captain?

CHARLEY: What say?

JACK: I said where's the captain?

CHARLEY: Can't say...I ain't obliged to keep tab of the skipper.

JACK: (GRUNTS)

CHARLEY: I say I ain't obliged to keep tab of the skipper.

JACK: Yes - that's what I thought you said...

DOC: (CHUCKLES)

CHARLEY: Hear the cabin boy was murdered...

JACK: Oh, you heard that?

CHARLEY: I say I heard the cabin boy --

JACK: I heard you the first time. What about it?

CHARLEY: Reminds me of the time I was sailin' aboard the Yankee Boy out of Yokohama fer Liverpool...Every mornin' a fresh pool of blood on the aft deck. Nobody dead, nobody missin', but every mornin' there she was....

JACK: That's a beautiful thought.

CHARLEY: What say?

JACK: I said, BEAUTIFUL.

CHARLEY: Yep...Give the fo'c'sle quite a turn...

DOC: (AMUSED) You ever find out where it come from?

CHARLEY:      Yep...Ship was haunted.

DOC:            You honest to goodness KNOW that?

CHARLEY:      'COURSE!

DOC:            There you are, Jack - you always tellin' me there's no  
such things as ghosts...Here's a hombre that even bin  
on a haunted ship.

JACK:          He's crazy.

CHARLEY:      Crazy, eh? (CHUCKLES)

DOC:            You think that's funny?

CHARLEY:      Sure DO...It's crazy people like me that stay alive  
after everybody else's gone to Davey's Locker.

JACK:          Ever see any snakes on the Blue Phantom?

CHARLEY:      Snakes?

JACK:          That's what I said.

CHARLEY:      Nope...(CHUCKLES) Always do all my drinkin' ashore.

JACK:          Don't say...

CHARLEY:      I say, I always do my drinkin' ashore.

DOC:            (CHUCKLES)

JACK:          I take it from that that you always do your drinking  
ashore.

CHARLEY:      (CHUCKLES) Shore DO.

DOC:            (AMUSED) Happy old coot, anyway, Jack...

CHARLEY:      What say?

DOC:            (AMUSED) I say, you're a happy old coot.

CHARLEY:      Yep...Take things as they come, I always say.

JACK:          Oh, you always say THAT, do you?

CHARLEY:      That's right, mate.

JACK:          Well, you don't seem much disturbed by the cabin  
steward's death.

CHARLEY: Tain't no skin off MY nose.

DOC: Why, you old sonovagun!

CHARLEY: Nope...No skin off MY nose. Every man fer hisself, I always say.

JACK: Well, let's get back to snakes.

CHARLEY: (CHUCKLES) I always DO...Every time I go ashore, I git back to snakes...Bin doin' it fer years now.

JACK: Listen, Charley - I'm not fooling. I'm talking about real live reptiles that strike.

CHARLEY: Oh, THEM!

JACK: Yes...Have you ever known of one being aboard the Blue Phantom?

CHARLEY: Don't seem likely, now, DO it?

JACK: Well, you might be interested to know that the cabin steward was killed by a snake bite.

CHARLEY: Scotch's the best thing in the world fer snake bites, I always say...

JACK: (AGGRAVATED) Will you keep your mind on what I'm saying?

CHARLEY: Easy, matey, easy...Reminds me of the time we were bringing a load of circus animals from Borneo --

JACK: (VIOLENTLY) I don't care anything about THAT, either!

CHARLEY: Don't, eh?

JACK: No, I don't.

CHARLEY: Can't say I blame you. Never liked that story much MYSELF.

DOC: (CHUCKLES) Doggone if you ain't the dangdest crack-brain we've run up against YET.

JACK: Will you get it through your head that a man has died of snake poison on this ship?

ibt

CHARLEY: Kinda repeatin' yourself, ain't ye?

JACK: (DISGUSTED) Oh, what's the use!

DOC: (AMUSED) Looky, Charley - one man's dead of snake poison, and it looks like plenty more's a-gonna follow him if we don't find this here snake...Can't you git that through your head?

CHARLEY: (AGREES) SOUNDS like sense.

DOC: Well, it IS sense. So what we got to do is put on a snake hunt and git rid of it.

CHARLEY: And that DON'T sound like sense!

DOC: It don't?

CHARLEY: Not to ME.

DOC: Well, WHY don't it?

CHARLEY: Who ever heard of puttin' on a snake hunt aboard a craft eleven days out to sea?

JACK: Well, whether it makes sense to you or not, that's what we're going to do. Now, then, how do you go about lighting up the deck?

CHARLEY: Easy...Easy as shootin' fish...

JACK: All right - if it's so easy, how do you do it?

CHARLEY: See this here searchlight?

JACK: Yes...

CHARLEY: Turn her around like this...Snap her on, and she lights the deck from stem to stern.

JACK: Well, go ahead and DO it.

CHARLEY: Nope...

JACK: What do you mean, NO?

CHARLEY: Cain't do it without orders from the skipper.

JACK: Well, I can.

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CHARLEY: That's mutiny.

JACK: Oh, no, it isn't...I'm not signed on the crew...Besides, as you always say, it's no skin off your nose.

DOC: Yeah - whatcha waitin' for, Jack? Go ahead and turn her on...

CHARLEY: No, you don't, mates...Time you two got to movin'.

DOC: (CHUCKLES) Well, doggone...Look at him, Jack - he's went and pulled a pistol on us.

CHARLEY: Little beauty, ain't she? Loaded right up to the gills, too. Git a move on...

JACK: You mean you'll shoot if we turn on that searchlight?

CHARLEY: Yep.

JACK: What about it, Doc?

DOC: Say the word, son...

JACK: (SHARPLY) GET HIM!

DOC: (EXERTION) You BET!

SOUND: (CRASH OF FURNITURE. BODIES HIT FLOOR)

DOC: (STRAINS) Get the gun, Jack...

JACK: Got it...Let him up...

DOC: (AMUSED) Okay, Charley, now you kin go back to guidin' the ship.

CHARLEY: (CHUCKLES) Got it away from me, didn't you?

DOC: (AMUSED) Sure did, feller...No hard feelin's...

CHARLEY: (CHUCKLES) 'Course not...Every man fer hisself, I always say...

DOC: (CHUCKLES)

JACK: All right - here goes the searchlight...

I LOVE A MYSTERY  
JUNE 5, 1950

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STORY NO. X - EPISODE NO. 2

DOC: Let her go....Whooooee, BOY, what a light! Lights the  
deck up like the sun was a-shinin'!

JACK: (TENSE) Doc...Doc, look down there!

DOC: Hey - somebody's sprawled down there on the deck!

JACK: Somebody...It's REGGIE!

DOC: Hey, Jack...Snakes! Maybe a snake's got him!

I LOVE A MYSTERY  
JUNE 5, 1950

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STORY NO. X - EPISODE NO. 2

(MUSIC:.....ORGAN - "VALSE TRISTE")

SOUND: (SIREN)

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